



## THE PHYSICIAN'S *Bookshelf*

**ISOTOPIC TRACERS**—A Theoretical and Practical Manual for Biological Students and Research Workers. G. E. Francis, Reader in Biochemistry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College; W. Mulligan, Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry, Glasgow University Veterinary School, and A. Wormall, Professor of Biochemistry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College. University of London, the Athlone Press, 1954. Distributed by John de Graff, Inc., 64 West 23rd Street, New York 10, 1954. 306 pages, \$7.00.

This book is divided into two parts. In the first part the theoretical principles underlying the preparation and measurement of radioactive and stable isotopes, their use as biological tracers, practical information concerning techniques, instrumentation, hazards and precautions in the use of radioactive isotopes, etc., are discussed.

The second part of the book contains detailed instructions for a course of practical exercises.

This book represents a summation of the lectures and demonstrations given by the authors at the St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College. These lectures particularly were adapted to meet the needs of selected undergraduates and graduates in science or medicine taking the London Hons. B. Sc. (Special Physiology) examination. These candidates had used or desired to use isotopes in their own researches in biochemical and physiological investigations.

The equipment described and used in this book was manufactured in Great Britain.

The authors emphasize that there is a real and increasing need for training centers where biological workers can acquire a knowledge of, and particularly practical instruction in, the use of Isotopic Tracer Methodology.

It is the hope of the authors that this book will be used as a practical laboratory handbook rather than a library reference book.

This book will be a valuable addition to the armamentarium of all biological students and research workers. The use of radioactive isotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes has attained a prominent position in both the clinical and research aspects of medicine. This book will be of limited interest to the physician not directly concerned with the use of isotopes for investigation.

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**PRACTICE OF ALLERGY.** Warren T. Vaughan, M.D., Richmond, Va. Third Edition revised by J. Harvey Black, M.D., Dallas, Texas. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1954. 1164 pages, \$21.00.

This *Practice of Allergy* by Warren T. Vaughan, with additions and revisions by one of his many friends, J. Harvey Black, also a renowned pioneer in allergy, continues to be the most important extended treatise in the field of clinical allergy. The profession is fortunate that this masterfully conceived and written volume continues to be available for present day students and also physicians in other specialties who are interested in clinical allergy, all of whom

should know this contribution and have it readily available for frequent reference. Dr. Black's many additions and revisions, moreover, justify the possession of either the second edition or especially this third edition even though the first edition has been in the physician's library for many years.

Dr. Vaughan's authoritative discussion of the history, terminology, experimental anaphylaxis and its identity to clinical allergy, and the immunology and pathology of clinical allergy have required little or no revision. His chapters on the frequency of allergy, heredity, minor and major allergies, the effects of climate and environment, the methods of history taking, skin testing, passive transfer, mucous membrane and patch tests, and other diagnostic procedures have changed little since the first edition. The specialty owes a great debt to Dr. Vaughan for his discussion and emphasis of clinical food allergy, along with the equally important inhalant allergy. The study of food allergy through history and diet trial and the errors inherent in test-negative diets receive proper attention in this work. The origin and relationship of all foods and condiments are important for reference. The section on pollens, the revised surveys of all individual states and other countries, and the diagnosis and treatment of pollen allergy are duly stressed and amplified. The book retains a most informative discussion and classification of fungi and discussion of the diagnosis of fungus allergy and the relative importance of fungi in clinical problems. Bacterial allergy continues to be, in the writers' opinions, of minor clinical importance. Drug allergy, of increasing frequency before and since the first edition of the book, receives present day consideration. The use and indications for cortisone and corticotropic hormone and the antihistamines are discussed. The causes of contact allergy and the accepted methods of study are presented.

New and important chapters on pulmonary function studies, the physiologic interpretation of clinical allergy, including the work of Selye, perennial hay fever, important additions to the pharmacology of allergy, histamine cephalalgia, the most recently revised elimination diets with their menus and recipes, and other subjects and phases of clinical allergy have been included by Dr. Black. In future additions a main challenge will be a more extended discussion of the many manifestations of allergy as encountered in practice.

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**MANAGEMENT OF PAIN, THE—**With Special Emphasis on the Use of Analgesic Block in Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Therapy. John J. Bonica, M.D., Director, Department of Anesthesia, Tacoma General and Pierce County Hospitals; Clinical Associate, Department of Anatomy, University of Washington Medical School. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1953. 1533 pages, 785 illustrations on 44 figures and 52 tables, \$20.00.

Since pain is the most common organic symptom which compels the patient to seek medical assistance, it is to be expected that a monograph on its management could justifi-

fiably include a major segment of the problems of clinical practice. As Bonica's discussion is followed, it develops that this book lives up to such an expectation. Entities from the neuralgias and control of pain in terminal cancer to such unexpected and tenuously related subjects as diabetes mellitus and megalocolon are considered. The discussion includes not only the technical aspects of pain management, but etiology, pathologic physiology, symptomatology, and differential diagnosis of many situations. The evaluation of therapy deals with both medical and surgical methods, as well as the interruption of pain pathways. Though theory is not the principal thesis of the book, the anatomic and physiologic factors of pain as we think of them today have not been omitted.

There are some controversial proposals which seem to be handled dogmatically, but such is the author's prerogative; in general, the discussion is sound and well supported. The substantial bibliography will serve as a basis for more extensive delving into the field by any who may be so minded.

An encyclopedia of therapeutic possibility rather than an attempt at a major contribution to fundamental understanding of pain, the volume will have something of value for most clinicians.

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**APHASIA THERAPEUTICS.** Mary Coates Longerich, Ph.D., and Jean Bordeaux, Ph.D. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1954. 185 pages, \$3.75.

This is a short book which should be of considerable value to workers in the field of retraining patients with aphasia. It can be read with profit both by the individual directly responsible for the training, and by the physician who directs the training. The treatment is strictly practical, and it is in this regard that the book has its greatest use.

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**DIENCEPHALON—Autonomic and Extrapyrarnidal Functions.** Walter Rudolf Hess, M.D., Professor of Physiology, Emeritus, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Grune and Stratton, New York, 1954. 79 pages \$4.00.

This is a brief account of Professor Hess's exploration of the function of the diencephalon by means of his highly developed technique of stimulation and destruction of this portion of the brain in animals. With the greater interest shown in recent years in this region, it is fortunate that this work has been made readily accessible to English speaking neurophysiologists.

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**CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF BEHAVIOR DISORDERS IN CHILDREN.** Harry Bakwin, M.D., Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, and Ruth Morris Bakwin, M.D., Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, both of New York University. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1953. 495 pages, 14 figures, \$10.00.

The Bakwins have written an encyclopedic book on emotional disturbances in children. They have included a varied and valuable bibliography at the end of each chapter. The book is nicely organized so that normal growth and development and care lead into discussions of emotional disorders of increasing severity. The chapter on history taking and examination of the emotionally disturbed child is for the most part an excellent one as are their chapters on growth and development and psychological testing. The book leans toward present day dynamic concepts of child psychiatry but these concepts are only partly integrated in the material presented. The authors' efforts to include and encapsulate every possible emotional disturbance of childhood both oversimplify much of the material and fail to present some of the evidence which would make certain

assertions reasonable. Perhaps the key to the whole book is found in the second word of the title, "management." The effort to instruct the pediatrician on how to "manage" the disorder or the child in a definite, prescribed manner is the book's chief drawback. The prescriptions that follow some excellent descriptions of the disorders illustrate the split between dynamic concepts and dogma. Such statements as "Jealousy begins at two years," "Most infants can be (bowel) trained by 11 to 14 months and some earlier," "Bladder training is best started at 12 to 16 months of age," etc., are illustrative of the arbitrary prescriptions not consonant with present day thinking in child psychology.

One would hope that a textbook which covers such a wide range of children's problems so exhaustively would approach these problems in the light of recent thinking about the child as an integral part of his family and that his emotional illnesses and their treatment would be considered in the same context. This defect is especially evident in their discussions of sleep disturbances, anorexia and obesity.

Perhaps the greatest failing in the book is the attitude that one need only to look to the appropriate chapter and page to find the "open Sesame" to the management of each disorder.

This book's chief value to the pediatrician may be that he will be encouraged to try to handle some of the emotional problems of children himself. When he finds the prescriptions not too helpful he may rely on his own experiences gained in human relationships and may find he can be of some help to the child and his parents.

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**PROGRESS IN NEUROLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY—An Annual Review—Vol. IX.** Edited by E. A. Spiegel, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Experimental Neurology, Temple University School of Medicine. Grune & Stratton, New York, 1954. 632 pages, \$10.00.

This perennially excellent review of progress in neurology and psychiatry retains its high standards. The contributors are well chosen, and there is little of the duplication that frequently mars such a composite effort. The reviews are sufficiently detailed to satisfy the specialist; for this reason this is not a book to sit down with of an evening in the hope of being briefly and painlessly brought up to date in the broad aspects of advances in the neuropsychiatric field. It is of much greater value as a short cut to the current literature by those closely associated with the specialties. It is an excellent reference work.

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**PSYCHOANALYSIS AND THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILD.** Gerald H. J. Pearson, M.D., Dean, Institute of the Philadelphia Association for Psychoanalysis. W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1954. 357 pages, \$5.00.

Dr. Pearson has written a book of value to everyone concerned with the learning process. Here for the first time, to my knowledge, is assembled much of the psychoanalytic thought on education both historical and current. As is usual with Dr. Pearson, this book is well written in his lucid, easy-to-read style.

From the introduction and from the table of contents one is led to hope for a presentation of the recent developments in understanding of ego psychology as it applies to education. Although part two of the book is labeled "Ego Psychology and the Education of the Child" this is in no way a distillation of current thinking and synthesis of what has been learned from more extensive and intensive therapeutic efforts with psychotic children and adults. The accent is still on oedipal problems, castration fears, repression of sexual curiosity, rather than on the increasing body of information about how the early infant-mother relationship and the